

January 31, 2018

The Honorable Craig Johnson and Daniel Huseman
Transportation, Infrastructure, and Capitals Appropriations Subcommittee
Iowa State Capitol
Des Moines, IA 50319

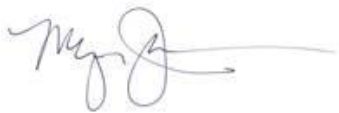
Dear Chairmen Johnson and Huseman:

On behalf of the Iowa Public Radio Board of Directors, we request your support for an appropriation of \$1.18 M to replace dated transmission equipment at two of our flagship stations: WOI-FM, owned by Iowa State University, and KSUI-FM, owned by the University of Iowa. WOI-FM is both the primary station for ISU's radio group and the central hub for Iowa Public Radio's statewide radio network. KSUI-FM is the primary station for the UI's radio group and the largest Classical music station in the IPR network and in the state of Iowa. WOI's transmitter and transmission line are both over 20 years old, and in critical need of replacement, and KSUI's transmission line is old and compromised. Failure of these aging systems would be catastrophic, causing IPR and the universities to rely on unreliable and dated back-up systems, and failing that, to go off the air.

Iowa Public Radio enriches the civic and cultural life in Iowa, providing a platform for conversations about the issues facing our state, and bringing the best in Iowa culture to listeners statewide. Our stations, owned by ISU, UI and UNI, collectively serve 260,000 listeners each week.

Attached is a more detailed description of the projects. If you have questions, do not hesitate to contact IPR Executive Director Myrna Johnson at Iowa Public Radio mjohnson@iowapublicradio.org, 515-725-1702, or IPR Board Member and immediate past chair Mary Kramer at kaynmary@gmail.com.

Sincerely,



Myrna Johnson



Ambassador Mary Kramer (retired)

cc: Members of the Transportation, Infrastructure and Capitals Subcommittee
Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Charles Schneider
Senate Appropriations Vice Chair Tim Kraayenbrink
Senate Appropriations Ranking Member Joe Bolkom
House Appropriations Chairman Pat Grassley
House Appropriations Vice Chair Ashley Hinson
House Appropriations Ranking Member Chris Hall
Senate Majority Leader Bill Dix
House Speaker of the House Linda Upmeyer